Nodal agency, to check smuggling of drugs and to coordinate the enforcement efforts of all the other Central and States enforcement agencies. Ministry of Welfare acts as the nodcl agency for demand reduction, to create awareness against drugs and to. check its illicit usage.

Defaulters of Nationalised Banks

524. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI KHAGEN DAS:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item captioned "Shame on you Cll-Clcan up the system, publish defaulter lists" which appeared in 'Indian Express' dated 22nd December, 99 regarding defaulters of the Nationalised Banks;

(b) if so, whether Government are accceding to the specific demand to make public the list of defaulters circulated by RBI among bank chiefs each year; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Under the existing banking laws inforce, disclosure of names of borrowers of banks and financial institutions (FIs) is not permissible except under the circumstances as provided under various statutes.

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) publishes, as on 31st March every year, a list of borrowers with outstanding of Rs. 1 crore and above and against whom suits have been filed by banks and FIs for recovery of their dues.